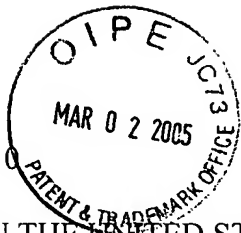


00684.003510



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
KEIICHIRO ISHIHARA, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 2851
Application No.: 10/633,521)
:)
Filed: August 5, 2003)
:)
For: OPTICAL SCANNING)
:)
DEVICE AND IMAGE)
:)
FORMING APPARATUS)
:)
USING THE SAME : March 1, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) as revised September, 2004 and pursuant to the waiver published at 1287 OG 163 (October, 2004).

U.S. Patent 5,343,325
Russian 2,037,860

These documents were cited during prosecution of a Russian patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of an English language translation of the Russian Decision on Grant is enclosed. Inasmuch as this application has

not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

Other documents cited in the Russian application have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statements dated July 15, 2004 and November 4, 2004.

The Russian Decision does not list English language counterparts of the Russian patent, but an English language abstract has been located and is enclosed. In addition, U.S. Patent 4,638,471 is believed to be an English language counterpart to Russian 2,037,860; that U.S. patent is also listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
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